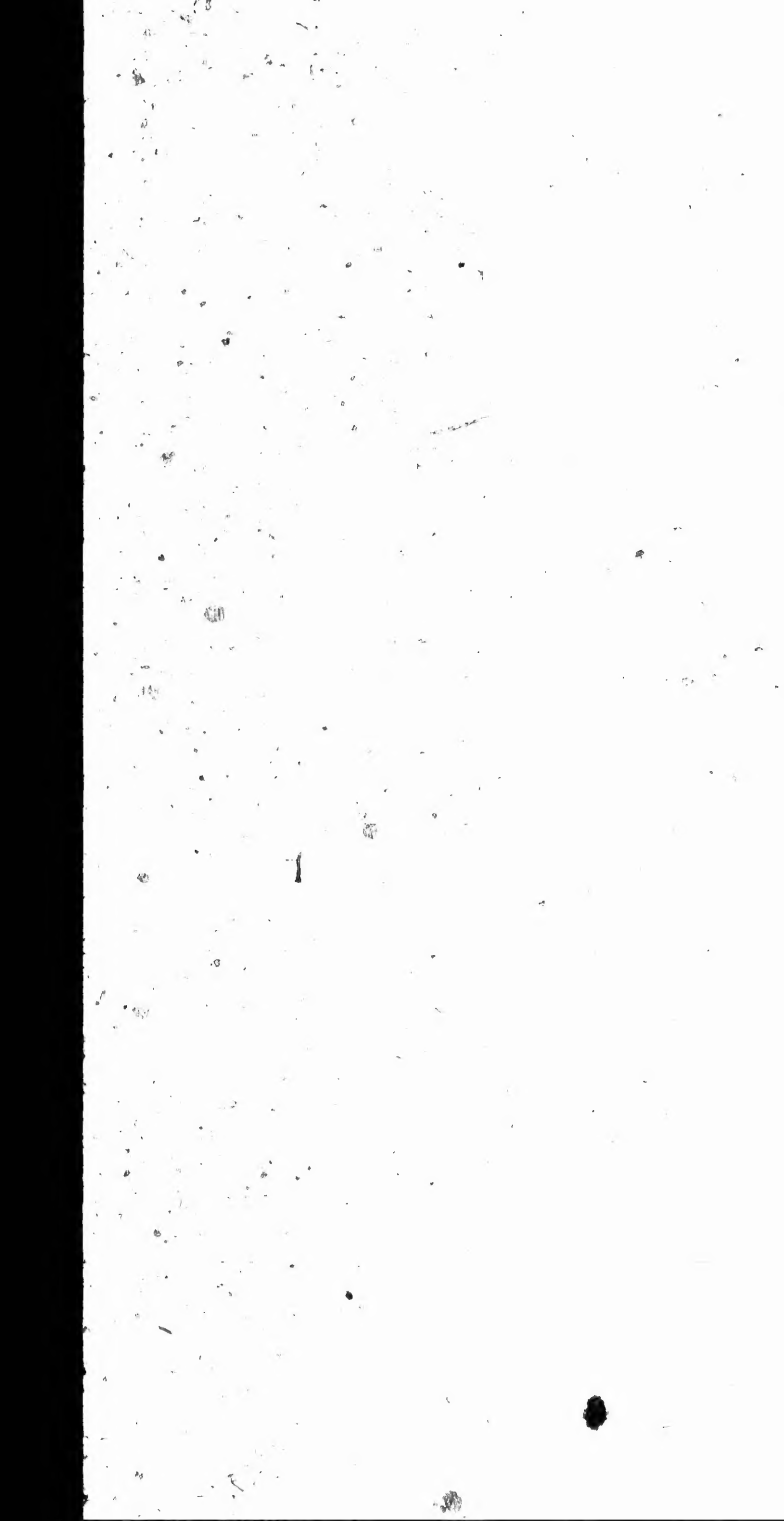




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SECOND SERIES—1897-98

VOLUME III

SECTION II

ENGLISH HISTORY, LITERATURE, ACHÆOLOGY, ETC.



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Materials for Canadian History

THE ANNALS OF TOWNS, PARISHES, ETC.

Extracted from Church Registers and other sources

By SIR JAMES M. LEMOINE

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BERNARD QUARITCH, LONDON, ENGLAND

1897

IX.—*Materials for Canadian History—The Annals of Towns, Parishes, &c., Extracted from Church Registers, and other sources.*

By SIR JAMES M. LE MOINE.

(Read June 23, 1897.)

In my recent presidential address before the Royal Society of Canada, I drew attention to the wealth of historical information yet unrevealed to the general public—in our archives office—over which our colleague, Dr. Brymner, watches with such paternal care—pointing out how valuable—nay, I may say—how indispensable the knowledge of its contents is to all those engaged in historical pursuits.

There are, however, other sources of information quite as valuable—as indispensable, I may say, to the compiler of the annals of each province of the Dominion—which I omitted then to mention, and which with your permission it will be my mission to briefly supply; I mean the chronicles of towns, counties, villages, townships, parishes, etc., as disclosed by reliable church registers, charters, land patents, &c.

Such histories, not only throw light on ethnological inquiry into the origin of the divers races, constituting the component elements of our population, but also help to illumine the onward path of the general historian and of the statist in their arduous quest.

This field of research, especially that based on the contents of church registers, has been for close on fifty years most industriously cultivated in the province of Quebec.

It may be said to have originated in that province with the late historian, Ferland, who, after an exhaustive examination of the dry-as-dust and crabbled old parish church registers at Quebec, published the results in a volume which has gone through more than one edition.

His example was followed by many minor lights in literature—whose works are to be found in our public libraries for consultation.

The mantle of the learned man fell to a worthy successor—the Abbé Tanguay,¹ one of our colleagues—who has devoted twenty years of his life, travelling through Canada, consulting every available church register previous to publishing his voluminous Genealogical Dictionary—a comprehensive record of the early emigration to Canada—in fact the genealogy of French Canadian families, from the foundation of Quebec, in 1608, to our own day.

The abbé has accomplished his gigantic task with the patience and industry of a Benedictine monk of long ago.

In the province of Quebec, church registers, from the regularity with which the entries are made daily, in the handwriting of the parish priest,

¹ Dictionnaire Généalogique par Mgr. C. Tanguay—7 volumes.

are invoked in innumerable transactions of social life—births, marriages, deaths, &c.

At Quebec the earliest register of R. C. marriages was opened in 1621.

A lacuna, however, occurred in 1640 by the conflagration, on the 16th June, 1640, of the parish church, *Notre-Dame de Recouvrance*. The record of births, marriages, and deaths, shared the same fate; the entries, however, were restored from memory; the population being very scanty, the process was comparatively easy.

From 1640 to the present time no break occurs.

There were 40 births and 22 marriages from 1630 to the 15th June, 1640.

I purpose recording here the leading publications on this subject:

Notes sur les Registres de Notre-Dame de Québec, par l'Abbé J. B. A. Ferland, 1850.

Notes Historiques sur Sillery, près Québec, par l'Abbé J. B. A. Ferland, 1850.

Etude Biographique sur le Commandeur Noël Brulart de Sillery, par l'Abbé Louis Bois, M.S.R.C., 1850.

Histoire de l'Isle d'Orléans, par l'Abbé Louis Bois, M.S.R.C., 1850.

Notes sur les archives de Beauport, par M. Jean Langevin, prêtre, ancien curé de Beauport, 1850.

Histoire de l'Isle d'Orléans, par L. P. Turcotte, Québec, 1869.

Histoire de la Visitation de l'Isle Dupas par l'Abbé Plinguet, 1867.

Histoire de la paroisse de Saint-Roch de l'Achigan, 1867.

Histoire de la paroisse de Saint-Hermas, 1867.

Histoire de la paroisse de Ste-Philomène.

Notes sur la paroisse de Ste-Anne de la Pocatière, par l'Abbé O. Paradis, 1869.

Histoire de la paroisse de St-Eustache, par M. de Bellefeuille, 1873.

Histoire de la paroisse de la Pointe-aux-Trembles, 1873.

Chroniques de Rimouski, par l'Abbé Chs. Guay, 1874.

Notes sur la paroisse de la Baie St-Paul, par l'Abbé C. Trudelle, 1879.

Histoire de l'Isle aux Coudres, par l'Abbé Mailloux, 1879.

Notes sur le Canada par Paul de Cazes, M.S.R.C., 1882.

Histoire d'une paroisse (Rivière-Ouelle) par l'Abbé H. R. Casgrain, M.S.R.C., 1884.

Le Premier Colon de Lévis, par J. Edmond Roy, M.S.R.C., 1884.

Mon voyage à Tadoussac, par J. Edmond Roy, M.S.R.C., 1884.

Histoire de la paroisse de St-Augustin, par A. Béchar, 1885.

Histoire de la paroisse de Charlesbourg, par l'Abbé C. Trudelle, 1887.

Histoire du Cap Santé, par l'Abbé Gatién, 1887.

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studies.

- Histoire de la paroisse de St-Jean de Matha, par l'Abbé Prevost, 1888.
Notes Historiques sur la paroisse de St-Thomas, par Raoul Renault, 1889.
Notes sur les Trois-Rivières, par Benj. Sulte, M.S.R.C., 1889.
Notes de la paroisse de St-Jean et du siège du Fort St-Jean, par Lucien Huot, 1889.
Notes de la paroisse de l'Île Verte, par Chs. Gauvreau, 1889.
Histoire de la paroisse de Longueuil et de la Famille de Longueuil, par Alex. Jodoin et J. L. Vincent, 1889.
Histoire de la paroisse des Trois-Pistoles, par C. Gauvreau, 1889.
Histoire de la paroisse de St-Nicholas, par E. T. Paquet, 1889.
Histoire de la paroisse de Ste-Anne de la Pérade.
Histoire du Vieux Lachine, par J. C. and D. Girouard, 1890.
Histoire de la paroisse de St-François de la Beauce, par l'Abbé Dumas, 1891.
Histoire de la paroisse de Yamachiche, par l'Abbé Caron, 1892.
Histoire de la paroisse de Berthier et du Comté de Berthier, par l'Abbé Moreau, 1893.
Notes Historiographiques sur Charlesbourg, par l'Abbé C. Trudelle, 1896.
Histoire de la Seigneurie de Lauzon, par J. Edmond Roy, M.S.R.C. —p. 600—Lévis, 1897.

Such are the leading publications issued of late in the province of Quebec—precious materials for historical, ethnological, and statistical studies.

